

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/749,615

Examiner

Susan McFadden

Applicant(s)

DENENBERG ET AL.

Art Unit

2655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Advisory Action filed 4-11-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13, 17, 20-22, 33, 36-38, 45 and 46.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Susan McFadden
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2655

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 13,17,20-22,33,36-38, and 45-46 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Shaffer et al (6,748,426) show a method, computer readable medium, and system for providing an interactive voice response system comprising: recognizing at least one word spoken by a user (voice recognition) using a grammar that is automatically updated (phone number grammar, address grammars, and name grammars from an updated Census bureau list, col 1. 13, ln 7-22) obtaining at least one set of topics of questions from the sources external (col 1. 24, ln 2-12, news) which are from updated sources of information external (proper external database, col 1. 26, ln 5-8) to the interactive voice response system (col. 13). In regard to claims 13,17,20,36, and 37, Shaffer et al. do not specifically show a system or computer readable medium outputting an audio signal containing a list of available news report providers, receiving selection of at least one news report provider by automatically obtaining at least one set of topics for questions spoken by the user from news reports by the at least one news report-provider; automatically updating a grammar using the at least one set of topics, and recognizing at least one word spoken by the user based on the grammar. In regard to claims 21 and 45, Shaffer et al. do not show automatically updating the grammar based on calendar information stored for a user recognizing at least one word spoken by the user using the grammar. In regard to claim 33, Shaffer et al. do not show automatically comparing message words in at least one message for a user with information in a synonym

Art Unit: 2655


database to determine synonyms for the message words, and adding the synonyms to the grammar; and recognizing at least one word spoken by the user using the grammar.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan McFadden whose telephone number is 571-272-7621. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on 703-305-4827. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Susan McFadden
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2655

April 25, 2005